[10th March 1960

VI.—PRESENTATION OF THE SEVENTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES.

3-30 p.m. DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : Mr. Chairman, I beg to present to the House the Seventh Report of the Committee on Government Assurances. Hon. Members have been supplied with a copy of this Report and there is very little for me to add except to draw or invite their attention to paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Report. In paragraph 8, the Committee took a little serious note that in the replies that were given by Secretaries of Departments and Departments in general, it was added that the replies might be treated as concluding the whole of the assurances given. The Committee felt that it was not for the Secretariat to decide whether an assurance was fulfilled, and that if it were so, there was no necessity for a Committee on Assurances to sit and consider this question. The Committee, therefore, resolved to observe that in future it might be left to the Committee to conclude whether an assurance had been fully implemented or not.

The other thing to which I would like to invite the attention of the House—I hope such an invitation would not be necessary in future—is paragraph 9 of the Report. There are still a large number of assurances in respect of which no replies have been received. Some of the assurances date as far back as 1955-56 and hon. Members will easily realize that there is no object in giving any assurances if the implementation of those assurances is to be deferred. Since the persons who gave the assurances may or may not be sitting on the Treasury Bench, once again the Committee have thought it proper to suggest that the implementation of the assurances must be a matter of some concern to the departments concerned. Even though final implementation may not be possible, at least an interim reply ought to be given so that the Committee may know exactly at what stage the assurances stand. With these remarks, I beg to present the Report to this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now adjourn and meet again at 3 p.m. on Friday, the 18th March 1960.

The House then adjourned.

VII.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

* 247. *Notification issued with G.O. No.* 2182, *Rural Development and Local Administration, dated* 29*th December* 1959, *appointing* 1*st January* 1960 *as the date on which all the provisions of the Madras Panchayats Act*, 1958, *shall come into force in the areas of the State of Madras except the Kanyakumari district and the Shencottah taluk of the Tirunelveli district.*

* 248 *to* 254. *Notifications issued with G.O. No.* 41, *Rural Development and Local Administration, dated* 11*th January* 1960, *G.O. No.* 46, *Rural Development and Local Administration,*